GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4751
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2002
STRENGTHENING OF R D FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PHARMA INDUSTRY
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pharmaceutical Research & DevelopmentCommittee constituted by the Government under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar have suggested the measures for strengthening of research and development of pharmaceutical industry ;

(b) if so, whether the said Committee suggested for establishment of pharmaceutical research and development support fund to promote research in the pharmaceutical industry ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether the Government have set up such fund ;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ;

(f) whether such fund has become necessary in the wake of trade barriers lifted by WTO ; and

(g) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to fight tough competition in pharmaceutical sector by the MNG ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S.B. MOOKERJEE)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) : For attracting R&D towards high cost − low-return areas, theCommittee recommended a fund called the Pharmaceutical Research and Development Support Fund (PRDSF)to be administered by the Drug Development Promotion Foundation. The Committee observed that significant areas of healthcare of relevance and value to the Indian populace may not be addressed by entities concerned with new drug development in the developed countries and therefore, the Indian Pharma R&D would need to make a coordinated effort. The Government have recently announced the Pharmaceutical Policy-2002, which includesin principle approval to the establishment of the PRDSF under the administrative control of the Departmentof Science and Technology, which will also constitute a Drug DevelopmentPromotion Board (DDPB) on the lines of the Technology Development Board toadminister the utilization of the PRDSF.